

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An HDC has first and second terminals. The first terminal is used to output a first write gate signal that dictates writing of data to the disk. The second  
5 terminal is used to input a second write gate signal output from an external circuit. The external circuit performs predetermined signal processing on write data in accordance with the first write gate signal output from the first terminal, and outputs the second write  
10 gate signal that reflects a signal delay in the circuit. A write inhibition controller incorporated in the HDC monitors the second write gate signal input via the second terminal, and detects, as a write inhibition state, a state in which writing of data to  
15 the disk is dictated during a period in which writing of data to the disk should be inhibited.